

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-2, 4-10 and 12-24 remain in this application for further review. Claims 1, 2, 4-10, 12 and 19 have been amended. Claims 3 and 11 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

I. Specification

The Office Action states that applicants are required to file a computer program listing appendix on compact disc in compliance with 37 CFR 1.96(c). The specification has been amended as set forth above and a computer program listing appendix has is filed on a compact disc in compliance with 37 CFR 1.96(c).

II. Rejection of Claims 1-11 Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Claim 1 has been amended to recite “[a] computer-readable storage medium.” Thus, based on this amendment applicants respectfully request that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101 be withdrawn.

III. Rejection of Claims 1-24 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Altova Inc. & Altova GmbH, “XML Spy 4.0 Manual” (hereinafter “XML Spy”) in view of “TEI, The XML Version of the TEI Guidelines” Text Encoding Initiative Consortium (hereinafter “TEI”). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the following combination of features not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited art:

A computer-readable storage medium having computer-executable components, comprising:

a first component that is arranged to read a word-processor document stored as an XML file;

a second component that is arranged to use an XSD for interpreting the word-processor document; and

a third component that is arranged to validate the word-processor document, wherein the ***validation identifies tagged XML content and untagged non-XML mixed content that is not semantically included within an XML element, and wherein the validation selectively ignores untagged non-XML mixed content within the word-processor document.***

Applicants can find no teaching or suggestion in the cited references of the above combination of features. As stated in the Office Action, “XML Spy does not expressly teach validation by selectively ignoring mixed content within a word-processor document.” (Office Action, at page 6). Applicants assert that TEI does not remedy the lack of teaching in XML Spy.

TEI teaches the use of an “IGNORE” XML tag that is used to mark material that is not to be processed during validation. (TEI, at page 41). TEI teaches that when a user does not want content validated, the user must insert the content within an “IGNORE” XML element. That is, TEI teaches ignoring ***tagged content that is included within an XML element***. Claim 1 recites “a third component that is arranged to validate the word-processor document, wherein the ***validation identifies tagged XML content and untagged non-XML mixed content that is not semantically included within an XML element, and wherein the validation selectively ignores untagged non-XML mixed content within the word-processor document.***” The teachings of TEI are in direct contrast to the features recited in claim 1. Thus, the cited references, individually or in motivated combination, do not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 1. Accordingly, applicants assert that independent claim 1 is allowable.

Independent claim 12 has been amended to recite the following combination of features not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited art:

A method for handling a word-processing document, comprising:

determining whether untagged non-XML mixed content within the word-processing document is to be ignored;

identifying tagged XML content;

identifying untagged non-XML mixed content that is not semantically included within an XML element; and

parsing and validating the word-processing document such that untagged non-XML mixed content does not cause validation errors when the determination has been made that untagged non-XML mixed content within the word-processing document is to be ignored.

Applicants can find no teaching or suggestion in the cited references of the above combination of features. As stated in the Office Action, “XML Spy does not expressly teach validation by selectively ignoring mixed content within a word-processor document.”

Applicants assert that TEI does not remedy the lack of teaching in XML Spy. TEI teaches ignoring identified ***tagged content that is included within an XML element***. Claim 12 recites

“identifying ***untagged non-XML mixed content that is not semantically included within an XML element***.” The teachings of TEI are in direct contrast to the features recited in claim 12.

Thus, the cited references, individually or in motivated combination, do not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 12. Accordingly, applicants assert that independent claim 12 is allowable.

Independent claim 19 has been amended to recite the following combination of features not taught or otherwise suggested by the cited art:

A system for creating, interpreting, and modifying a word-processor document stored as a ML file, comprising:

a ML file;

a validation engine configured to validate the ML file, wherein *the validation engine identifies tagged ML content and untagged non-ML mixed content that is not semantically included within an ML element and ignores untagged non-ML mixed content that is not semantically included within an ML element within the word-processor document*; and

a word processor configured to read the ML file created in accordance with an associated schema.

Applicants can find no teaching or suggestion in the cited references of the above combination of features. As stated in the Office Action, “XML Spy does not expressly teach validation by selectively ignoring mixed content within a word-processor document.”

Applicants assert that TEI does not remedy the lack of teaching in XML Spy. TEI teaches ignoring *tagged content that is included within an XML element*. Claim 19 recites ignoring *untagged non-ML mixed content that is not semantically included within an ML element within the word-processor document*. Thus, the cited references, individually or in motivated combination, do not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 19.

Accordingly, applicants assert that independent claim 19 is allowable.

Claims 2, 4-10, 13-18 and 20-24 include features not taught or suggested by the cited references. Moreover, those claims ultimately depend from independent claims 1, 12 and 19, respectively. Accordingly, applicants assert that claims 2, 4-10, 13-18 and 20-24 should be found allowable for at least the same reasons as the respective independent claims from which each depends.

IV. Request for Reconsideration

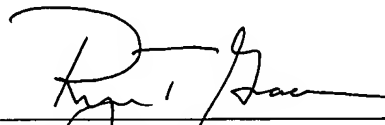
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all pending claims are believed to be allowable and the application is in condition for allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is

App. No. 10/726,077
Amendment Dated March 5, 2007
Reply to Office Action of December 5, 2006

respectfully requested. Should the Examiner have any further issues regarding this application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney for the applicants at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.



Ryan T. Grace
Registration No. 52,956
Direct Dial: 206.342.6258

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
206.342.6200

